

The International Conference of 'The Baltic Forum'

Opportunities and costs of the "Eastern Partnership"



May 23-24, 2014

Baltic Beach Hotel, Jurmala, Latvia



PROGRAM

The EU program 'The Eastern Partnership' already has a marked impact on the configuration and balance of power in the Eurasian space, on the relations between Russia and the European Union, on the dynamics of the processes to the east of the EU borders.

For the countries involved, the program carries both benefits and problems. In the course of its implementation not only opportunities but also risks may increase. In the region encompassed by 'The Partnership' areas of chronic conflict persist, and its members in a forced or voluntarily manner have made or are making the choice of their further development between the two projects - the European and the Eurasian one. As evidenced by the dramatic events around Ukraine, new destabilizing factors are adding themselves as well, which may influence the situation on the territory of the former Soviet Union and in the world as a whole. This can not but strengthen the concern both in the EU and in the bordering countries, and that, in turn, in the given circumstances dictates the need to seek new compromises and agreements.

May 23, Friday

09:00 - 10:00 **Registration of participants**

10:00 - 11:00 **Opening of the conference**

Introduction:

Jānis Urbanovičs - President of 'Baltic Forum' (Latvia)

Igor Yurgens - Chairman of the Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of 'The Baltic Forum' (Russia)

Kaspars Ozoliņš - State Secretary of Ministry of Transport of Latvia

Nils Ušakovs - Chairman of the Riga City Council

Hannes Swoboda - chairman of the Progressive Alliance of Social - Democrats in the European Parliament

Alexander Veshnyakov - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian

Federation in Latvia

Viktors Makarovs - parliamentary secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia

11:00 - 14:00 Plenary session '*New Eastern Partnership*'

Moderators:

Jānis Urbanovičs - President of 'The Baltic Forum'

Igor Yurgens - Chairman of the Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of 'The Baltic Forum' (Russia)

Sergey Potapkin - Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia

11:00 - 11:40 **Report of the Institute of Contemporary Development**(Russia).

Presentation of the report: **Andrei Spartak** - Director of the Russian Market Research Institute

11:40 - 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 - 14:00 Discussion

Panelists:

Juris Poikāns - the Ambassador at Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia on Eastern Partnership issues

Konstantin Kosachev - the head of the Federal Agency for the affairs of the Commonwealth of Independent States, for the compatriots living abroad and International Humanitarian Cooperation (Rossotrudnichestvo) (Russia)

Michael Emerson - leading researcher at the Centre for European Policy Studies (Belgium)

Vladislav Inozemtsev - MSU professor, director of the Center for Post-industrial Research (Russia)

Amanda Paul - Research Center for Foreign and Security Policy (Belgium)

Dmitry Vydrin - Director of the Institute for European Integration and Development (Ukraine)

Li Xin - professor of Shanghai Institute for the Study of World Economy, Director of the Department for Russian and Central Asian Studies

14:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 - 17:00 Plenary session '*Eastern Partnership" area, the EU and Russia: Challenges for regional security*'

Moderators:

Alexander Dynkin - Director of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)

Kristians Rozenvalds - journalist, political commentator, public relations specialist, professor, host of the weekly program "Vīzija", Ltd. "RKT Holdings' Chairman of the Board (Latvia)

Panelists:

Hannes Swoboda - chairman of the Progressive Alliance of Social - Democrats in the European Parliament

Chang Bin - Institute for the Studies of Russia, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Igor Kapyrin - Deputy Director of the Department of European Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

Elena Telegina - Director of the Institute of Energy and Geopolitics (Russia)

Ambassador **Hans-Friedrich von Ploetz** (Germany)

Alesia Vorobyova - researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (Byelorussia)

Sergey Chernyshev - the Eurasian Economic Commission, Assistant to the Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation

Stanislav Secieru - Romanian Centre for European Policy

May 24, Saturday

09:00 - 10:00 **Registration of participants**

10:00 - 13:00 **Discussion ‘*Security and Cooperation: the agenda for Eurasia*’**

Moderators:

Juris Paiders - President of the Union of Journalists of Latvia, deputy chief editor of the newspaper ‘Neatkarīgā Rīta Avīze’

Sergei Tsyplyaev - president of the Republic foundation (Russia)

Aleksandrs Vasiljevs - Director of the Baltic Forum (Latvia)

Panelists:

Emil Pain - Professor of the State University - Higher School of Economics; General Director of the Centre for Ethno-Political and Regional Studies (Russia) *‘Do the Russians want to get into Europe? Paradoxes of contemporary mass consciousness of Russians’*

Natalia Bondar - Secretary of the Political Council of the Socialist Party (Socialist Party of Ukraine) on the international policy of the Party

Pekka Sutela - Professor, Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland

Nadezhda Arbatova - Head of a Department of the Centre for European Integration of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)

Oxana Gaman-Golutvina - Head of Comparative Politics Department at MGIMO-University of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, President of the Russian Political Science Association

Tengiz Pkhaladze - Head of the International Centre for Geopolitical Studies (Georgia)

Sergey Kulik - Director for International Development of the Institute for Contemporary Development (Russia)

Yuri Sizov - President of the international fund "Amber Bridge" (Russia)

Justas Vincas Paleckis - Member of the European Parliament (Lithuania)

Sergei Palagin - Director of the Research Center for Foreign and Security Policy (Belarus)

Marc Franco - Senior Associate Fellow at Royal Institute for International Relations, Senior Adviser at EU-Russia Center (Brussels), Visiting Researcher University of Antwerp (Belgium)

Sergei Tsyplyaev - president of the Republic Foundation (Russia)

13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 - 16:00 **Continuation of discussion**

16:00 **Summary of discussions
Closure of the Conference**